

BULLER'S REVERSE DUE TO THE SLAUGHTER OF HIS GUNNERS AND THE LOSS OF THEIR CANNON IN TRYING TO FORD THE RIVER.

"THE HARDEST WORK SINCE INDIAN MUTINY."

This is the London Standard's Comment on the Successive Reverses to Britain in South Africa.

The Chronicle Pleads with the Public to Cheer Up the Generals, Even When Their News Is Not Cheering.

Some of their commandants are able to give our generals useful but expensive lessons in modern tactics. Let it be understood everywhere by everybody that our main business just now is to have this war carried through to its inevitable conclusion.

"It will be a sad Christmas in many English homes, but war is tragic business, not waged without terrible suffering."

Liberal Papers Generous. Even the Liberal party journals, opposing the Government, take the same view. The Chronicle says:

"We shall not cry out against Buller. Some cheering news must be sent to the commanders in Africa even when no cheering news comes from them."

"Let them be assured we are losing neither confidence nor patience, but trust them to make good all errors."

The Daily News, also Liberal, declares that the War Office and Admiralty must strain every nerve to hurry out reinforcements. "There will be no half-hearted efforts now by the Government regarding reinforcements. The biggest and fastest ships will undoubtedly be requisitioned for transports. The Cunarders, White Stars and P. and O. lines, that can carry troops to the Cape in less than two weeks."

The Times gravely says: "This new check to our arms must be admitted to be one imposing on the British nation a much heavier task than has been contemplated at any time since the war began. However lamentable the checks and reverses we have had again and again in this struggle, they do not alter the responsibilities and obligations the country has deliberately undertaken."

Existence of Empire Involved. "It is perfectly clear the question is not one merely of allowing the Boers to undermine our position in South Africa, but a question involving the very existence of our empire, especially the retention of our great self-governing colonies."

SAW DEATH APPROACH, BUT COULD NOT MOVE.

Brakeman's Foot Gets Caught in a Frog and Locomotive Injures Him Fatally.

Leon Berman, a Long Island Railroad brakeman, died in the Jamaica Hospital yesterday, soon after being run over by a freight engine in the yards at Dumont.

He was switching cars and while throwing a switch his foot became wedged in a "frog." He endeavored to pull the foot out, but did not succeed. He remained a captive until the engine came along and ran him down.

A NEW NAME FOR THE PARIS.

The American Liner Will Try That of an American City.

London, Dec. 15.—The difficulties connected with the insurance of the American liner Paris, which ran on the rocks off the Manacles on May 21 and was refloated on July 11, have been settled. The vessel will be handed over to Harland & Wolff, at Belfast, for a thorough overhauling. When she resumes her place in the transatlantic service, a year hence, she will be rechristened after an American city.

BURNED TO DEATH IN SIGHT OF A CROWD.

Nerveless Onlookers See a Woman Fall Backward into a Prison of Flame.

BULLER HAD 40,000 MEN AND 110 CANNON.

Here is a List of the Troops with Him on the Tugela River—Not All of Them Were in the Battle.

He Had 4,500 Cavalry and 28,900 Infantry, 1,050 Artillerymen and 84 Guns Besides Naval and Howitzers.

A recapitulation of the various dragoons, horse and foot, in General Buller's command indicates that he had with him little fewer than 40,000 men and 110 guns. Here is the list:

HOUSEHOLD CAVALRY.	
First Squadron First Life Guards	500
First Squadron Second Life Guards	500
First Squadron Royal Horse Guards (The Blues)	500

CAVALRY OF THE LINE.	
First (Royal) Dragoons	500
Second Dragoons (Royal Scots Greys)	500
Sixth (Inniskilling) Dragoons	500
Sixth Dragoon Guards	500
Twelfth Lancers	500
Tenth Hussars	500
Thirteenth Hussars	500
Fourteenth Hussars	500
Total	4,500

INFANTRY.	
FOOT GUARDS.	
(One battalion from each regiment composing the Brigade of Guards)	
First Battalion Scots Guards	850
Second Battalion Coldstream Guards	850
Third Battalion Grenadier Guards	850

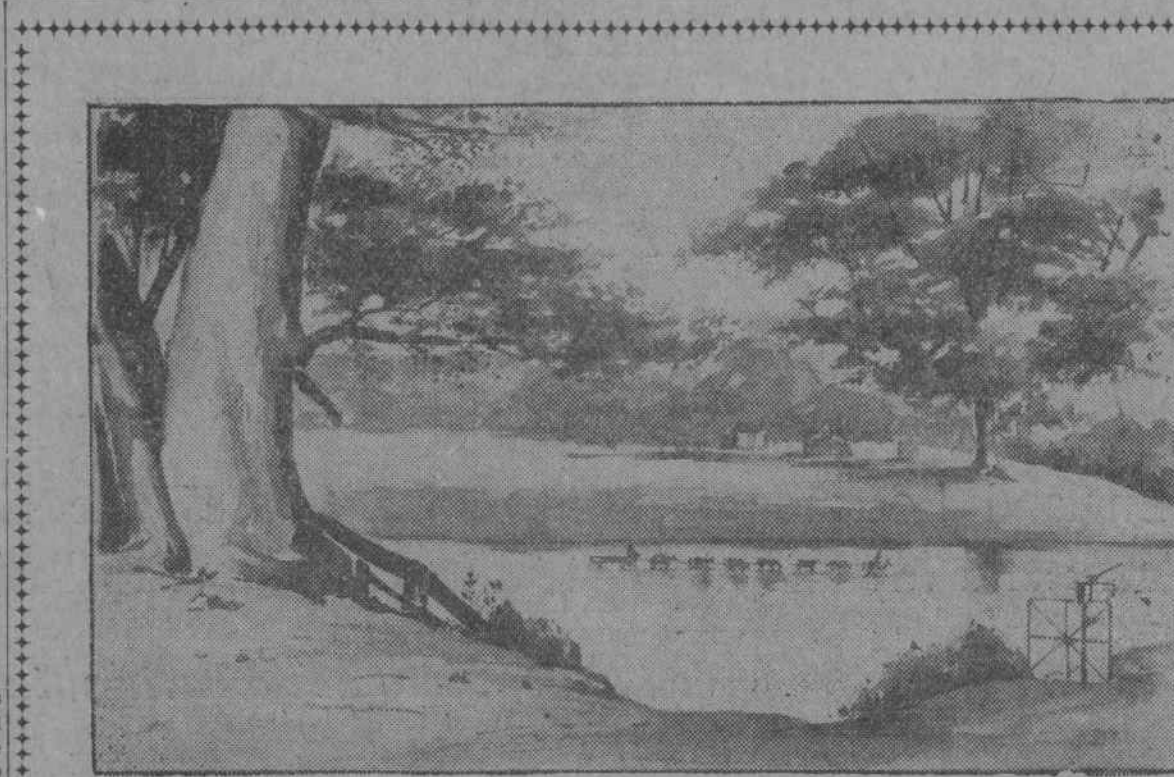
INFANTRY OF THE LINE.	
Second Battalion Rifle Brigade	850
First Battalion Rifle Brigade	850
Third Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps	850
Second Battalion Cameron Highlanders	850
Second Battalion Forty-Second Highlanders (Black Watch)	850
Second Battalion Seaforth Highlanders	850
First Battalion Gordon Highlanders	850
First Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's)	850
First Battalion Enniskillen Fusiliers	850
First Battalion Leicestershire Fusiliers	850
First Battalion Welsh Fusiliers	850
Second Battalion Irish Fusiliers	850
Second Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers	850
First Battalion Dublin Fusiliers	850
Second Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers	850
First Battalion City of London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers)	850
First Battalion Connaught Rangers	850
First Battalion Highland Light Infantry	850
Second Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry	850
Second Battalion Somersetshire Light Infantry	850
First Battalion Durham Light Infantry	850
Second Battalion Shropshire Light Infantry	850
Second Battalion Manchester Regiment	850
Second Battalion Leinster Regiment	850
Second Battalion Devonshire Regiment	850
Second Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment	850
Second Battalion East Surrey Regiment	850
Second Battalion West Surrey Regiment	850
Second Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment	850
First Battalion Welsh Regiment	850
Total	28,900

ARTILLERY.	
HORSE ARTILLERY.	
G Battery	75
H Battery	75
O Battery	75
P Battery	75
R Battery	75

FIELD ARTILLERY.	
Seventh Battery	75
Fourteenth Battery	75
Thirtieth Battery	75
Sixty-third Battery	75
Sixty-fourth Battery	75
Sixty-sixth Battery	75
Seventy-third Battery	75
Seventy-fourth Battery	75
Seventy-seventh Battery	75
Seventy-eighth Battery	75
Totals	1,050

ENGINEERS.	
Tenth Company Royal Engineers	50
Eleventh Company Royal Engineers	50
Twelfth Company Royal Engineers	50
Seventeenth Company Royal Engineers	50
Twenty-sixth Company Royal Engineers	50
Total	250

SUNDY TROOPS.	
Howitzer Battery	75
Naval Brigade	500
Mounted Infantry Brigade (detached from the aforementioned Infantry battalions)	3,000
Army Service Corps—Transport and Supply	1,000
Army Medical Supply	?
Post Office Corps	?
Railway Corps	425
Telegraph Corps	?
Balloon Corps	?
Total	5,000
Grand total	39,700



The Ford at the Tugela River.

BULLER'S GENERALS MEN WITH FINE RECORDS.

He Himself Has Been Fighting Since 1860 and Won the Victoria Cross in the Zulu War in 1879.

From General Buller down, all the leading officers in the great battle have brilliant records, having fought many wars in many climes.

General the Right Hon. Sir Redvers Buller, V. C., G. C. B., K. C. M. G., has been a warrior all his life. He was in the China war in 1860, with the Red River expedition of 1870, in the Ashanti war of 1873-4, the Kaffir war of 1878 and for his gallant conduct in the Zulu war of 1879 was decorated with the Victoria Cross and was made aide de camp to Her Majesty. He was in the Egyptian campaign of 1882, in the Sudan in 1884 and went up the Nile in 1884-5.

Major-General Arthur Fitzroy Hart, C. B., who attacked the Boers on the left flank, and whose force suffered such terrible loss, participated in the Ashanti war of 1873-4, in the Zulu war of 1879, was in the Transvaal in 1881, and was in Egypt in 1882.

Major-General Henry John Thornton Hildyard, C. B., who made the attack on the right flank and occupied Colenso with his forces, was in the Egyptian campaign of 1882.

Major-General the Hon. Nevill Gerald Lyttleton, C. B., was in the Jowaki expedition of 1877, in the Ashanti war of 1873-4, in the Zulu war of 1879, in Egypt in 1882, and on the Sudan expedition of 1884-5.

Colonel Charles John Long, R. A., who commanded the artillery, of which so many pieces were captured, fought the Afghans in 1879-80 and was on the Nile expedition of last year.

Captain Harry N. Schofield, R. A., aide-de-camp to General Buller, whose gallantry in saving what was saved of the artillery is mentioned in the despatches of his colonel, is a young soldier. He has apparently made good use of his first opportunity to achieve a name as a soldier, and will, of course, be rewarded.

CIVIL SERVICE LEAGUE DEPLORES M'KINLEY'S ACT.

Says He Has Taken the First Backward Step Since the Law Was Adopted.

Indianapolis, Dec. 15.—At the convention of the National Civil Service League today all of the officers were re-elected. A resolution was adopted which declared that the order issued by the President in last May withdrawing several thousand places from the classified service and replacing the same with the first backward step taken by the Administration since the Civil Service law was passed. The resolution also "regrets that the President has not yet fulfilled the assurance given by him to a committee."

The principal speakers were Charles J. Bonaparte, of Baltimore, and Clinton Rogers Woodruff.

URGES LABOR MEN TO VOTE INDEPENDENTLY.

American Federation Adopts a Resolution Discouraging Political Party Allegiance.

Detroit, Dec. 15.—A resolution recommending members of labor bodies to vote at elections independent of political parties was adopted this afternoon by the American Federation of Labor.

Considerable time was occupied by discussion of a movement to more clearly define the working duties of the respective crafts in order to avoid conflicts which exist between the organizations whose work in their respective callings is not allied and interwoven.

Suicide's Body Found in Woods. The body of a man was found hanging to a tree in the woods near Ocean terrace, Dunham Hills, S. L., yesterday. It was taken to the morgue at Clinton, where Thomas Martin identified it as that of Herman Schmidt, a janitor. Martin said that Schmidt had been on leave from his home in New York City and was in the woods when he committed suicide. He had planned to kill himself with great care.

Mary Glennon, Murderess, Is Insane. Mrs. Mary Glennon, indicted for the murder of her six-year-old daughter, Mary, was declared insane by a commission of experts, yesterday, and will be taken to Matteawan asylum today.

ASSAULTS REPELLED ON MAFEEKING AND KIMBERLEY.

The Beleaguered Towns Hold Their Own Gallantly Against Repeated Attacks from the Boers.



Major-General Lyttleton, C. B. Major-General the Hon. Nevill Gerald Lyttleton commanded the forces supporting the centre. He was in the Jowaki Expedition of 1877, fought in Egypt in 1882, and was on the Nile Expedition of 1884-5.



Major-General Hildyard, C. B. Major-General John Henry Thornton Hildyard commanded the forces attacking the Boers on the right flank and finally occupying Colenso. He won his square as a soldier in the Egyptian campaign of 1882.

TYPEWRITER TRUST FORCED INTO A TIGHT CORNER.

C. W. Seamans, Alleged President, Demurs to Questions in Court, Fearing Incrimination.

A motion to compel Clarence W. Seamans, said to be the president of the Union Typewriter Company, which it is alleged, owns the patents covering several typewriter machines, to answer certain questions in a suit against the Wagner Typewriter Company, in the United States Circuit Court yesterday, made it apparent that the trust is being pressed into a tight corner. Questions to Mr. Seamans and his replies follow:

Q. When did you last possess or control any of the patents mentioned in the subpoena?

A. The defendant's answer, as I understand, charges me with the commission of a crime. I decline to answer, and I demur to the question. I am not an attorney, and I am not subject to the penalties contained in the Federal Anti-Trust act and the statutes of the State in question.

Q. Will you state whether or not, in an agreement between yourself and Charles W. Seamans, which was not provided, among other things, that the patents for the typewriter machines, which they may have in any patents covering, appertaining or relating to typewriter machines?

A. I decline to answer, and enter the same demurrer as before.

ORDERS AND TRANSFERS IN THE ARMY AND NAVY.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 15.—These army and navy orders and transfers were issued today:

NAVY.—Lieutenant-Commander J. M. Helm, additional duty in charge of Fifth Lighthouse District, St. Louis, Captain Y. Shilling, additional duty in charge of Fifth Lighthouse District, Baltimore, Lieutenant-Commander W. P. Day, command duty on board Viceroy, Lieutenant R. O. Bille, additional duty as navigator of Viceroy, Captain T. Jewell, from command of Brooklyn to home and wait orders, Captain A. S. Snow, additional duty as chief of staff, North Atlantic Station.

ARMY.—Captain F. V. Reynolds, from New York City on the transport Sumner, to Manila.

Sick Man on Trial for Murder. Middletown, Conn., Dec. 15.—Joseph A. Hough was placed on trial today for the murder of Harry Chadwick in Haddam on last July 10. The defence succeeded in having out Hough's alleged confession to the father of Mary Smith, who was engaged to be married to Chadwick, that he was in love with Mary Smith and so killed her brother. The prisoner is very ill.

ASSAULTS REPELLED ON MAFEEKING AND KIMBERLEY.

The Beleaguered Towns Hold Their Own Gallantly Against Repeated Attacks from the Boers.

Pretoria, Monday, Dec. 11.—It is officially announced that Mafeking, west of Mafeking, was bombarded on December 11. There was sharp fighting.

The Boers attacked a British post at Mafeking during the night of December 10. After severe fighting the Boers were repulsed and retired to Snyman's Fort.

KIMBERLEY REPELS A HOT ASSAULT.

London, Dec. 15.—The War Office has a despatch from Colonel Kekewich, dated Kimberley, Sunday, December 10, saying: "The Boers have reentered Kuruman and have again been repulsed by loyalists and Bechuanas."

"The Kimberley forces made a demonstration northward on December 9 and drew 200 Boers and three guns. Fighting ensued for several hours. The British casualties were one man killed and seven wounded."

IRISH MUTINY STORY AN ABSOLUTE FAKE.

Waterford, Ireland, Dec. 15.—The story that the reserves of the Royal Irish Regiment, while enbarbing at this port on Wednesday, sang "God Save Ireland," cheered the Boers and President Kruger and threw their rifles into the river is absolutely unfounded.

London, Dec. 15.—The reserves of the Royal Irish Regiment will enbarb for South Africa tomorrow from Southampton.

Guiana Dutch Would Help South Africa.

Surinam, Dutch Guiana, Dec. 15.—There is a widely organized movement here for the purpose of aiding the South African Dutch and opposing the resident British subjects, in which high officials and consular representatives are implicated. The British consular officers are vigorously opposing this, as being virtually a breach of neutrality, and diplomatic representations on the subject have gone forward.

Assistant Secretary Davis Off for Africa.

London, Dec. 15.—Webster Davis, Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior at Washington, sails for Cape Town tomorrow on the steamer Mexican. He expects to visit the Transvaal, Habert de Bathe, Mrs. Langtry's husband, will also sail on the Mexican.

CRONJE'S STORY OF BERESFORD'S FLAG TO FLY AT THE MASTHEAD.

He Says the Boers' Scandinavian Brigade Stormed a Difficult Position and Suffered Severely.

Six More Officers to Be Added to the List of Methuen's Dead, Four of Whom Were Reported as Missing.

Pretoria, Tuesday, Dec. 12.—The following official announcement has been made: "General Cronje reports that yesterday there was desultory fighting till 6, when heavy cannon fire was resumed. The Scandinavians stormed a difficult position, but it became untenable and they suffered severely. I was unable to send help. The British were in overwhelming force, but must have had at least 2,000 men put out of action, either killed or wounded."

Another official report, from Captain Flinchart, says:

"There were no signs of surrender, the burghers fighting with conspicuous bravery and maintaining their positions under heavy British fire. Our cannon were of very little use."

"The British were greatly assisted by balloons. Twenty-four ambulances were working backward and forward between the fighting line and the enemy's camp. Fighting was very severe. The Boer force along the river bank was being heavily attacked and is receiving assistance from the other Boer forces."

"Our loss is not definitely known. I estimate it at one hundred killed and wounded."

A telegraph operator at the Modder River wires:

"Gun and Maxim firing has been proceeding since 5:30 this morning. At 10 cannonading was proceeding and at 2 the fighting was reported to be very severe. The Boer force along the river bank was being heavily attacked and is receiving assistance from the other Boer forces."

London, Dec. 15.—A special despatch from the Modder River says the firing reported by a telegraph operator was a resumption of the fighting between General Methuen's forces and those of the Boers.

Albany, N. Y., to the Times from Modder River under date of December 13 says: "The troops are remaining in the same position."

"This morning, by request of the Boers, ambulances went out and fetched in sixty-five wounded. Meanwhile the men of the Naval Brigade, who had not been informed of the arrangement, fired on the Boers with the naval gun. The Boers replied, shelling in the most resentful manner. It is doubtful if we can obtain safe conduct to the ambulances."

ADD THESE TO THE LIST OF METHUEN'S DEAD.

London, Dec. 15.—The following named officers of the Highland Brigade, who were reported missing after the battle of Magersfontein, were killed:

Captain the Hon. James F. T. Cunningham-Bruce, Captain William Macfarlane and Lieutenant Ramsey, of the Second Royal Highlanders, and Captain Alexander W. M. Brodie, of the Second Seaforth Highlanders. The following have died of their wounds: Colonel George T. F. Downman, First Gordon Highlanders, and Lieutenant Campbell.

METHUEN HAS A COSTLY SKIRMISH.

London, Dec. 15.—The War Office has received the following dispatch: "From the officer commanding at Orange River, Thursday, December 14:

"Yesterday part of the Mounted Infantry, under Captain Bradshaw, and the York and Lancaster Guides, under Lieutenant Macfarlane, patrolled in the direction of Ramah and Zoutspan Drift, about ten miles east of the Orange River, to reconnoitre and report the strength of the enemy reported to be holding the drift. The Mounted Infantry found a strong detachment of the enemy at the drift and a sharp engagement ensued. The enemy ultimately retreated to Goomansberg."

"Captain Bradshaw and three men were killed; Lieutenant Grogan, of the East Kents, and seven men were wounded."

"The Boers had five men killed and several wounded."

BERESFORD'S FLAG TO FLY AT THE MASTHEAD.

In View of Anti-British Intrigues He Resigns His Seat in Parliament to Join the Mediterranean Fleet.

England Trying to Forestall France and Russia, Which Are Stirring Up Trouble in Abyssinia.

(Copyright, 1899, by the New York Journal and Advertiser.)

London, Dec. 15.—The report that certain powers are taking advantage of England's preoccupation in South Africa to stir up trouble for her in the north is confirmed by a dispatch from Aden reviving the account of anti-British intrigues at the Court of Abyssinia and by the action of the British Government on receipt of it.

Lord Charles Beresford has resigned his seat in Parliament for York to take the second command of the Mediterranean fleet. This fleet has been enormously strengthened during the last few weeks, the Government deeming it prudent to forestall any intrigues in Egypt and Abyssinia.

The reports of anti-English intrigues at the court of Abyssinia have been persistent, notwithstanding a dispatch from Aden today says affairs there are to all appearances quite normal. The Governor of Narar has left for England to observe the movements of the Russian fleet. Menelik remains quiet at Adis Abeba, and shows equal courtesy and good-will to the representatives of European powers.

Captain Harrington, the British agent, is quietly holding his own at Adis Abeba, where French Minister Lagarde arrived recently. "Count Leontoff, the agent of Russia, has also arrived at Adis Abeba."

There was a story a few days ago that Lord Charles Beresford was persuading King Menelik to claim the Egyptian Sudan as Abyssinian territory, and that the King and his army were moving menacingly toward the west. The second report, credited entirely by today's dispatches, and probably came from a French source, the wish being rather to the thought.

GENERAL MACDONALD SUCCEEDS WAUCHOPE.

London, Dec. 15.—General Hector Macdonald, whose defeat of the Dervishes' flank attack at Omdurman turned a critical situation into a British victory, has been ordered to leave India immediately, to succeed the late General Wauchope in command of the Highland Brigade at Secunderabad, has also been ordered to the Cape to command a division.

A Christmas-Suggestion

THE PIANOLA

The Pianola is a piano-player by means of which any one can play the piano.

It supplies perfect technic.

The expression is subject to the instantaneous control of the player.

Price \$250.

Daily recitals morning and afternoon. You are cordially invited to attend.

The Aeolian Co.

18 W. 23d St.

will keep their establishment open in the evening from Monday, the 18th inst., until Christmas.

UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

Tiffany & Co.

will keep their establishment open in the evening from Monday, the 18th inst., until Christmas.

UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

THE LITTLE SOLDIERS IN YOUR BLOOD.

The part which the corpuscles of the blood play in making good the loss occasioned to the body by wear and tear, and in carrying off the effete or worn-out material, has been compared to the part played by a soldier. The corpuscles of pure blood are our soldier-friends, who repair the worn-out tissues of the body, and fight against disease-germs. The first condition for good health is pure blood, and that can only be obtained and kept by taking pure food and drink.

Adulterated food-stuffs and drinks are the pests of the modern market, and all too often health considerations are sacrificed to apparent cheapness. If you would have a pure drink, take cocoa, but let it be a pure cocoa, such as Van Houten's, which is highly digestible, extremely soluble, and of most delicious taste. It is cheap, too, for it costs less than a cent a cup.

It is easily made; it has an attractive aroma; and it contains more nourishment than an equal quantity of the best beef-tea.

BE SURE YOU TRY VAN HOUTEN'S Eating CHOCOLATE.

GREAT WESTERN CHAMPAGNE.

The Best Product of American Wine Makers.

Pleasant Valley Wine Co. RHEIMS, N. Y.

"For sale by all first-class wine merchants."

"Delicate yet enduring flavor that comes only with rich old age."